

## Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 AF-10 ARA-10 EA-10 NEA-10  
CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00  
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/118 W

-----035158 180511Z /17

R 172000Z JAN 78  
FM USMISSION USUN NEW YORK  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9097  
INFO AMEMBASSY OTTAWA  
USMISSION GENEVA

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E.O. 11652: N/A  
TAGS: PORG, SHUM, CA  
SUBJECT: CANADIAN PREPARATIONS FOR HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION  
MEETING

1. CANADIAN MISOFF LIVERMORE AT UN MISSION RETURNED JANUARY 15 FROM WEEK'S MEETING IN OTTAWA OF CANADIAN DELEGATION TO UPCOMING HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION (HRC) MEETING AND OTHER CANADIAN OFFICIALS, AND REPRESENTATIVES OF NGOS. HE TOLD MISOFF THAT MOST OF THE TIME WAS SPENT WITH NGOS, AND THAT TIME WAS NOT VERY VALUABLE. AMBASSADOR BEAULNE WILL AGAIN HEAD CANADIAN DELEGATION, WITH LIVERMORE (NY) AND CHANDLER (GENEVA) ALSO ON THE DELEGATION, AND POSSIBLY ANOTHER RELATIVELY HIGH LEVEL OFFICIAL TO BE NAMED. IT WAS DECIDED THAT CANADA WILL SEEK RE-ELECTION TO THE COMMISSION, AND THIS WILL BE ANNOUNCED SHORTLY BEFORE ECOSOC. IT WAS DECIDED THAT BEAULNE WOULD BE AVAILABLE TO BE CHAIRMAN OF THE WESTERN GROUP AND THE WEO VICE-CHAIRMAN AND MEMBER OF THE BUREAU OF THE HRC. CANADA WOULD WELCOME US SUPPORT. A SURVEY OF HUMAN RIGHTS ISSUES AND THE AGENDA SUGGESTED TO THE CANADIANS THE FOLLOWING EMPHASES:

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2. POLITICAL PRISONERS. THE CANADIANS WILL SEEK SOME WAY TO COUNTER THE "VERY BAD" SWEDISH RESOLUTION ADOPTED AT THE GA, AND ARE TRYING TO FRAME A RESOLUTION AND FIND A PLACE FOR IT ON THE AGENDA THAT WOULD (IN LIVERMORE'S WORDS) "DO WHAT THE US RESOLUTION ON TORTURE DID IN THE THIRD COMMITTEE -- BE SO STRONG IT WOULD HAVE A SHOCK EFFECT AND PERHAPS ENABLE A GOOD BUT MILD RESOLU-

TION TO BE ADOPTED."

3. REIGIOUS INTOLERANCE. CANADIANS ARE THINKING OF PROPOSING A SMALLER WORKING GROUP (10 TO 12 NATIONA) TO WORK DURING THE HRC MEETING, A REPORT BACK TO IT.

4. TORTURE CONVENTION. A PAPER IS BEING DRAWN UP IN OTTAWA THIS WEEK WITH THE THINGS THE CANADIANS CONSIDER ESSENTIAL TO BE IN THE CONVENTION. ALSO, THEY HAVE ASKED THEIR EMBASSY IN STOCKHOLM TO ASK FOR A COPY OF THE DRAFT THE SWEDES ARE PREPARING. THEY WOULD WELCOME A US INITIATIVE IN NYC TO BEGIN DISCUSSIONS AMONG MEMBERS OF THE HRC.

8. THE HIGH COMMISSION FOR HUMAN RIGHTS. OTTAWA IS PREPARING THIS WEEK A PAPER AND/OR A RESOLUTION ON THE HIGH COMMISSIONER TRYING ESPECIALLY TO ELABORATE THE MANDATE OF THE POST. THEY DEICUSSED THE CHANGE OF NAME TO "UNDERSECRETARY GENERAL FOR HUMAN RIGHTS AND HUMANITARIAN AFFAIRS" BUT WERE OF THE OPINION THAT THIS WOULD DIMINSH THE FREEDOM OF THE OFFICIAL BY MAKING HIM MORE DIRECTLY SUBORDINATE TO THE SYG.

6. UGANDA. CANADIANS ARE WILLING AND HAVE DECIDED TO TAKE THE INITIATIVE ON THIS, AND WILL THREATENNT TO RAISE THE ISSUE PUBLICLY UNLESS THERE IS SIGNIFICANT ACTION LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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UNDER 1503. EVEN IF THERE IS SOME ACTION UNDER CONFIDENTIALITY, THE CANADIANS MAY BE FORCED TO GO PUBLIC ON THE ISSUE BECAUSE OF STRONG PRESSURES AT HOME. THE CANADIAN MISSION IN NYC IS PREPARING A RESOLUTION THAT COULD BE PRESENTED PUBLICLY.

7. FURTHER CANADIAN PREPARATIONS FOR THE HRC. CHANDLER HAS BEEN INSTRUCTED TO TALK TO VAN BOVEN IN GENEVA. LIBERMORE HAS INSTRUCTIONS TO TALK TO ALL THE "IMPORTANT" DELEGATIONS, AND NOT JUST TO SPEND HIS TIME WITH THE "LIKE-MINDED." (HE MENTIONED ESPECIALLY INDIA, NIGERIA, SENEGAL, USSR AND POLAND.) BEAULNE TRIED TO REACH MEZINSKY IN WASHINGTON BY PHONE JANUARY 13, AND WOULD LIKE TO TALK OVER PLANS AND PRIORITIES WITH HIM IF POSSIBLE, ASAP. BEAULNE WILL VISIT WITH KEY REPRESENTATIVE OF THE MEMBERS OF THE HRC IN PARIS. CANADIANS ARE ALSO THINKING IN TERMS OF AD HOC ALLIANCES WITH NATIONS OF OTHER REGIONS AROUND ISSUES RATHER THAN A CROSS-THE-BOARD SOLIDARITY WITH THE WEOS ON ALL ISSUES, AND ARE VERY WILLING TO TRY TO WORK OUT AN ORCHESTRATED PLAN WITH US ON THAT.

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